THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Telephone connections sanctioned for Gorakhpur Telephone Exchange

851. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1600 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 11th May, 1993 and state:

(a) what steps have been taken by the Government to ensure that the STD/ISD facility provided at Captainganj telephone exchange, District Deoria, Uttar Pradesh, starts functioning properly with immediate effect;

(b) what is the number of long distance telephone connections from Gorakhpur Telephone Exchange which were sanctioned for installation at Captainganj after 1st September, 1990;

(c) what is the number of them that have so far been installed there; and

(d) what is the total number of sanctioned connections yet to be installed and by what time they will be installed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Electronic exchange has been provided at Captainganj which is better equipped for STD working.

(b) Only one: sanctioned subject to technical feasibility.

(c) Nil.

(d) One as mentioned in part (b) above. The connection is technically non-feasible at present.

बिलों का भुगतान न किया जाना

852. **श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय :** क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि मैसर्स माइक्रोफोन इन्डस्ट्रीज, रायबरेली नामक एक लघु औद्योगिक एकक 15 जुलाई 1993 तक इंडियन टेलीफोन इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड, रायबरेली को कच्चे माल की आपूर्ति करता रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि माइक्रोफोन इन्डस्ट्रीज, रायबरेली के बिलों का अभी तक भुगतान नहीं किया गया है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो कब से तथा बकाया बिलों की राशि कितनी है;

(घ) क्या सरकार ने उक्त एकक के बकाया बिलों के भुगतान के लिये कोई समय-सीमा निर्धारित की है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उक्त इन्डस्ट्री को बकाया राशि का भुगतान कब तक कर दिया जायेगा ?

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम) : (क) जी नहीं। मेसर्स माइक्रोफोन इन्डस्ट्री रायबरेली नाम की कोई लघु औद्योगिक एकक, आई.टी. आई. रायबरेली को कच्चे माल की सप्लाई नहीं करती।

(ख) से (ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Improvement of field services

853. CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what improvements have been brought about by Government in the matter of field services and extending facilities to the subscribers;

(b) what are the circle-wise details in his regard for the last year; and

(c) what are the details of the work done by Government circle-wise, for bringing about the improvements during the years 1991-92 and 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The improvement brought about by Government in the matter of field services and extending facilities to subscribers are as follows:

(i) Rehabilitation of outdoor plant and subscribers fitting.

(ii) Replacement of old worn-out exchange equipments.

(iii) Introduction of more reliable and efficient technologies like electronic switching equipments; push button telephones; jelly filled cables; ducting of cables; PCM; optical fibre and microwave systems for trunk services;

(iv) Government have adopted a policy in January 1991 to provide telephone facility progressively to all Panchayat Villages by 31st March, 1995 subject to availability of resources as a first step towards the objective of covering all the villages of the country with telephone facility by 1997. This facility is being provided mainly through radio media with lesser maintenance efforts and more reliable performance.

(b) and (c) The details are given in Annexure. [*See* Appendix CLXVIII Annexure No. 16]

Scholarships granted by DOT

854. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number and amount of scholarships granted during the last three years by the Department of Telecommunications to students going abroad for studies in telecommunications;

(b) whether such students within the stipulated period have returned home afer their studies;

(c) what is the mechanism by which Government recover its money from those students who do not return home; and

(d) what is the programmes for such students who return home after the study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir, the Department of Telecommunications has no such scheme under which scholarships are granted to students for study abroad.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

Telephone connections given in Bihar

855. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of telephone connections given during the year 1992-93 in Bihar and what are the places where new telephone exchanges are installed; and

(b) what is the number of telephone connections which are to be given during the year 1993-94 and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The total number of telephone connections given during the year 1992-93 in Bihar is 34389.